

8FW 2877  
JP



520.40997X00

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s): Y. SHIBATA, et al  
Serial No.: 10/020,977  
Filed: December 19, 2001  
For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR DETECTING DEFECTS  
Group: 2877  
Examiner: G. Stock, Jr.

**AMENDMENT**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

July 13, 2004

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated March 26, 2004, the following amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application, as listed below and as set forth on the following pages:

Amendment of the Specification;

Amendment of the Claims;

Amendment of the Abstract; and

Remarks are included following the amendments.